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said brightness detection circuit.

2. (Amended) A drive apparatus for a plasma display panel according to claim 1, wherein said brightness detection circuit comprises:

an image signal accumulator for accumulating a brightness of each pixel of said plasma display panel for each frame or for each field of an image signal; and

an accumulated value comparator for determining whether an accumulated value detected by said image signal accumulator is larger or smaller than a prescribed value.

3. (Amended) A drive apparatus for a plasma display panel according to claim 2, wherein said image signal accumulator accumulates a brightness of all pixels in an effective display area of said plasma display panel.

5. (Amended) A drive apparatus for a plasma display panel according to claim 2, wherein said charge recovery timing control circuit controls so that, when said accumulated value obtained by said image signal accumulator is lower than a prescribed value said charge recovery period is made relatively short, and further so that, when said accumulated value obtained by said image signal accumulator is higher than said prescribed value said charge recovery period is made relatively long.

6. (Amended) A drive apparatus for a plasma display panel according to claim 1, wherein said charge recovery timing control circuit controls to change said charge recovery

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period for only a sub-field that has a relatively large brightness weight, and to leave said charge recovery period for a sub-field having a relatively small brightness weight unchanged.

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7. (Amended) A drive apparatus for a plasma display panel according to claim 1, further comprising a pixel counting circuit for counting a number of pixels of a brightness exceeding a pre-established reference brightness, wherein in a case in which a value counted by said pixel counting circuit is below a pre-established value, said charge recovery timing control circuit controls so as to make said charge recovery period relatively long.

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9. (Amended) A drive apparatus for a plasma display panel according to claim 1, wherein said brightness detection circuit comprises a power consumption detection circuit for measuring a power consumption of said plasma display panel.

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10. (Amended) A method for driving a plasma display panel comprising a charge recovery circuit for re-using a recovered electrical charge, said method comprising:

- accumulating a brightness of each pixel of said plasma display panel for each frame or for each field of an image signal;
- comparing said value accumulated in said accumulating a brightness of each pixel so as to determine whether said value is larger or smaller than a prescribed value; and
- changing a charge recovery period from a time at which a charge recovery operation of said charge recovery circuit starts to a time of fixing to a sustaining potential or a ground potential, in response to said comparison results obtained in said comparing said value.

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Please add the following new claims 11-20:

Sub C<sup>1</sup> 11. The method according to claim 10, wherein said accumulating a brightness of each pixel comprises accumulating a brightness of each pixel in an effective display area of said plasma display panel.

12. The method according to claim 10, wherein said accumulating a brightness of each pixel comprises accumulating a brightness of pre-established pixels within an effective display area of said plasma display panel.

a4 13. The method according to claim 10, wherein said changing a charge recovery period comprises controlling a charge recovery timing so as to make said charge recovery period relatively long when said value accumulated in said accumulating a brightness exceeds a threshold.

14. A drive apparatus for a plasma display panel comprising a charge recovery circuit that re-uses a recovered electrical charge, said drive apparatus comprising:

a brightness detector for detecting a brightness so as to obtain screen brightness information; and

a charge recovery timing controller for controlling a charge recovery period in response to said brightness information obtained by said brightness detector.

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15. The drive apparatus for a plasma display panel according to claim 14, wherein said brightness detector further comprises:

an image signal accumulator for accumulating a brightness of each pixel of said plasma display panel for each frame or for each field of an image signal.

16. The drive apparatus for a plasma display panel according to claim 15, wherein said brightness detector further comprises:

an accumulated value comparator for determining whether an accumulated value detected by said image signal accumulator is larger or smaller than a prescribed value.

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17. The drive apparatus for a plasma display panel according to claim 15, wherein said image signal accumulator accumulates a brightness of all pixels in an effective display area of said plasma display panel.

18. A method for driving a plasma display panel comprising a charge recovery circuit that re-uses a recovered electrical charge, said method comprising:

detecting a brightness so as to obtain screen brightness information;

comparing an accumulated brightness value so as to determine whether said brightness value is larger or smaller than a threshold value; and

controlling a charge recovery period in response to said brightness value.

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19. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to claim 18, further comprising:

re-using a recovered electrical charge with a charge recovery circuit.

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20. The method according to claim 10, wherein, said controlling a charge recovery period comprises controlling a charge recovery timing so as to make said charge recovery period relatively long when said value accumulated in said accumulating a brightness exceeds the threshold.

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